

## PROCLAMATION POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2003

**WHEREAS,** throughout American history, many men and women have bravely served in our military and sacrificed much to preserve our country and protect democracy around the world; and some of those who answered the call to service were captured in conflict and imprisoned by our enemies; and many remain missing in action; and

WHEREAS, each year on National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we honor those Americans who were prisoners of war and recognize them for the courage and determination they showed in the face of unspeakable hardships; we also honor those who remain unaccounted for, especially remembering the sacrifices of their families who must courageously face each day without knowing the fate of their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, the fate of more than 88,000 Americans who fought in that conflict from World War II through Operation Desert storm remains unknown; these Americans, who dedicated their lives to preserving and protecting our freedoms, will never be forgotten; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I proclaim September 19, 2003, as **POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY** in North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State